

In the United States Court of Federal Claims
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
No. 15-1487V
Filed: April 25, 2016
UNPUBLISHED

ANDREW POTTS,
Petitioner,
SECRETARY OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES,
Respondent.

* Damages Decision Based on Proffer;
* Influenza;
* Shoulder Injury ("SIRVA");
* Special Processing Unit ("SPU")
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*Danielle Strait, Maglio, Christopher & Toale, PA, Washington, DC, for petitioner.
Alexis Babcock, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

Dorsey, Chief Special Master:

On December 8, 2015, petitioner filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,² (the "Vaccine Act"). Petitioner alleges that he suffered a shoulder injury caused-in-fact by his October 25, 2014 influenza vaccination. Petition at 1-2. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On March 3, 2016, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding petitioner entitled to compensation for a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration ("SIRVA"). On April 25, 2016, respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation ("Proffer") indicating petitioner should be awarded \$85,000.00 in actual and projected pain and suffering. Proffer at 1. In the Proffer, respondent represented that petitioner agrees with the

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all "§" references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

proffered award. Based on the record as a whole, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **the undersigned awards petitioner a lump sum payment of \$85,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Andrew Potts.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 300aa-15(a).

The clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Nora Beth Dorsey

Nora Beth Dorsey
Chief Special Master

³ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS**

ANDREW POTTS,)
Petitioner,)
v.)
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND)
HUMAN SERVICES,)
Respondent.)

)

No. 15-1487
Chief Special Master Dorsey

RESPONDENT'S PROFFER OF DAMAGES

I. Items of Compensation

For the purposes of this proffer, the term “vaccine-related” is as described in Respondent’s Rule 4(c) Report filed on March 2, 2016.

A. Pain and Suffering

Respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded \$85,000.00 in actual and projected pain and suffering. This amount reflects that the award for projected pain and suffering has been reduced to net present value. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a)(4). Petitioner agrees.

B. Past Unreimbursable Expenses

Respondent proffers that petitioner should not be awarded any past unreimbursable expenses related to his vaccine injury. Petitioner agrees.

C. Lost Wages

The parties agree that based upon the evidence of record, petitioner’s vaccine-related injury has not impaired his earning capacity. Therefore, respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded no lost future earnings as provided under the Vaccine Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a)(3)(A). Petitioner agrees.

II. Form of the Award

The parties recommend that compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment as described below and request that the Chief Special Master's decision and the Court's judgment award the following:¹

A lump sum payment of \$85,000.00, which represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner would be entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a), in the form of a check payable to petitioner.

Respectfully submitted,

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s/ Alexis B. Babcock
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Dated: April 25, 2016

¹ Should petitioner die prior to entry of judgment, the parties reserve the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future medical expenses and future pain and suffering.